

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01393 121339Z

43 R

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 /014 W
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R 121245Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 210

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, IR

SUBJ: NUCLEAR ENERGY AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

REF: STATE 26349

1. FORMER AEC COMMISSIONER MR. DOUB, WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS CHAPMAN AND LESSARD, MET WITH DR. ETEMAD MORNING OF FEB 11 AND AGIN FOR DINNER SAME DAY. DOUB AND ETEMAD ESTABLISHED CORDIAL PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP.

2. DR. ETEMAD EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER POSITION USG WAS TAKING WITH IRAN ON PROPOSED NEW AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN CIVIL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY. HE WANTED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DOUB'S VISIT TO RAISE THIS MATTER UNOFFICIALLY, SINCE HE PREFERRED TO DO IT IN INFORMAL MANNER. ESSENCE OF HIS CONCERN WAS THAT ALTHOUGH HE UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED WITH USG POLICY TO STRENGTHEN NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS, GOI DID NOT WANT TO BE DEALT WITH ON SAME TERMS AS EGYPT AND ISRAEL. HE MENTIONED THAT GOI HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO US DRAFT AT MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR ENERGY, BUT SUBSEQUENTLY HE HAD READ REPORTS OF CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON NUCLEAR MATTERS WHICH SEEMED TO INCLUDE IRAN IN GENERAL CATEGORY FOR ALL MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES. ETEMAD SAID HIS ORGANIZATION LACKED EXPERTISE TO EVALUATE PROPERLY LANGUAGE OF US DRAFT FROM THIS STANDPOINT AND ASKED MR. DOUB TO ASSIST HIM ON THIS. HE REQUESTED AN INITIAL OPINION BY EVENING FEBRUARY 11, SINCE HE WAS SCHEDULED TO DEPART TEHRAN FOR SWITZERLAND NEXT MORNING (OBVIOUSLY TO REPORT TO SHAH). HE ALSO WNATED

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A DETAILED, WRITTEN ANALYSIS OF US DRAFT WELL BEFORE JOINT

COMMISSION MEETING IN MARCH, WHEN IT WAS HOPED AGREEMENT COULD BE SIGNED.

3. DOUB UNDERLINED FACT THAT ALTHOUGH DR. RAY HAD SUGGESTED CALL OFN DR. ETEMAD, HE WAS NOT NOW REPRESENTING THE USG. HE ALSO EXPRESSED SOME RELUCTANCE TO GIVE AN OPINION WITHOUT ADEQUATE TIME TO STUDY US DRAFT, BUT AGREED UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, PROVIDED ETEMAD TOOK ACCOUNT OF HANDICAPS OF HASTY PERUSAL OF DOCUMENT.

4. EMBASSY OFFICERS LATER FURNISHED DOUB WITH COPY OF US DRAFT AND PROVIDED BACKGROUND ON ITS FORMULATION.

5. DOUB REPORTS THAT AT DINNER HE WENT OVER WITH DR. ETEMAD THE SALIENT FEATURES OF THE US DRAFT FROM MEMORY. HE EXPLAINED WHY CONGRESS IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT NUCLEAR SALES ABROAD AND POINTED OUT THAT ALL NEW AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN NATIONS WILL BE SIMILAR TO THAT OFFERED TO GOI. HE ALSO STATED THAT USG HAD MADE A CONCERTED EFFORT TO TEMPER THE LANGUAGE OF DRAFT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OUR SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH IRA.,. DR. ETEMAD NOTED THAT US CANCELLATION RIGHTS WERE MENTIONED THREE TIMES IN TEXT AND FELT THIS WAS EXCESSIVE. HOWEVER, HE SEEMED "VERY RELAXED" ABOUT MATTER, AND IN OPINION OF DOUB, GOI WILL PROBABLY BE WILLING TO SIGN AGREEMENT AS NOW WRITTEN. (EMBASSY COMMENT: ENUMERATION OF TIMES US CANCELLATION RIGHTS ARE MENTIONED IN TEXT SEEMS TO SUBSTANTIATE VIEW THAT AEOI HAS DEVOTED MORE CARE AND EXPERTISE TO STUDY OF US DRAFT THAN THEY SOMETIMES ADMIT TO.)

6. DOUB ATTEMPTED TO GET TELEPHONE CALL THROUGH TO FRIEDMAN PRIOR TO EVENING MEETING WITH ETEMAD. AS RESULT OF MEETINGS WITH ETEMAD HE HAS ALTERED HIS TRAVEL PLANS AND NOW EXPECTS TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON IN FEW DAYS. HE WILL CONTACT DR. RAY SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL.

HELMS

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Message Attributes

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